



NOW NEWS

VOLUME 23

NUMBER 2

AUGUST 1985

President's message

I trust N.O.W. hobbyists are gearing up for the fall season which should feature an array of interesting shows thruout the state and midwest. You can spend six Sundays in a row at Fond du Lac, Milwaukee, Appleton, Oconowoc, Green Bay & Janesville shows starting in late September. My personal observations lead me to believe that things are picking up. Olympic gold coinage seems to be soaring as I write this; I interpret that meaning new bodies are entering the ranks. The writer had a chance to visit the Mid-American Show at MECCA and did note a relatively large number of new faces on both sides of the scales. There are new collectors out there; Let's make them welcome.

Along this line, club officers, please list your 1986 club show dates with Randy Miller, (P.O. Box 254, Appleton, WI 54902) as soon as possible. N.O.W.'s show coordination is one of the many benefits of NOW. Show co-ordinator Randy can do a better job with your communications. If there is a possible conflict, Randy's the key to the situation and will attempt to clarify things.

The 1985-86 board will hold an interim meeting at MECCA during the MNS September show. The board will meet at 11 AM on Saturday morning, September 28th. All board meetings are open to the membership. I would encourage all members to attend these nuts-and-bolts meetings; you are welcome; your input is a welcome transfusion. This September meeting will decide yes-or-no on a 1986 auction at Sheboygan. Along this line, any

Pres. (continued)

NOW member dealer (or otherwise) that would like to host a 1986 auction at Sheboygan/NOW can attend our meeting in September and present their proposal. As an option, feel free to contact the writer (205 N Whitney Way, Madison, WI 53705) if interested. The general consensus of the board seems to be that we should have an annual auction of basic Wisconsin material.

Secretary Mike Tramte continues to urge member clubs to consider using our NOW video cassette tape on grading for one or more of their meetings. This tape is now available and can be scheduled thru Mike (PO Box 1036, Green Bay, WI 54305). Your only club cost is a nominal amount of postage. You can use the tape as long as necessary. We'd also like to see a few more members wearing NOW clip-on badges, they are attractive and available to all NOW members. Orders may be placed thru Mike; we make these badges available to all members at cost.

With 1985 rapidly entering the history books, I can assure the membership that NOW will operate at a deficit for the current year. We are not, and have never been (to the best of my knowledge) a money making operation, that's by design, the way it should be incidentally. Our

Silver Anniversary expenses put a goodly dent in the old bank book, as expected. May I then encourage your seeking out new members for your state NOW? We always need an influx of new members; one important point is that our unit costs per member go down as the membership numbers increase, it just makes good sense to have a steady influx of new applications;



please do your part. Ask one of your collecting friends to join please.

If you were unable to be at Appleton last spring, I'd encourage you to get your copy of the Anniversary booklet thru Mike Tramte; details were included in the last issue. (Your cost \$1.00 postage & handling to Mike).

In closing, any reader encouraged to communicate with any of the board members and voice their individual input, their pros and cons, their ideas for NOW. The hobby needs this state organization - the hobby needs you and your input.

Regards,

Bob

Robert C Kraft

POSTAGE CURRENCY

Next time you want a lively coin club discussion, take out the "emergency" money of the Civil War, and choose the most interesting! With official and unofficial issues, encased postage, Confederate coins and paper, the discussion should be lively!

Encased postage and postage currency appeal to both the stamp and coin collector with the fractional currency giving an especially strong following here in the midwest.

As the Civil War progressed, hoarders (bless them!) soon had all the gold pulled from circulation, quickly followed by the silver coins of circulation, and lastly the lowly copper coins.

FRACTIONAL CURRENCY



By August of 1862, desperate federal authorities brought forth Postage currency in 5¢, 10¢, 25¢ and 50¢ denominations. This currency was designed to be redeemed in postage stamps only, but in reality was eagerly pressed into all fiscal transactions, creating a need for a second issue of the same. Later in the war, in December of 1864, a third issue was released, adding the three cent and fifteen cent denominations to the previously issued four piece sets. The fact that two issues of fractional currency were issued after the Civil War does not alter the "emergency" status of the first three issues.

The 1867 and 1874 four note fractional issues were also due to coin hoarding, but these coin hoarders exported the silver coins since the intrinsic value was higher than face value. By 1876 silver bullion prices fell worldwide, and small change again became abundant.



Action at Oshkosh, Harry Collins helps Ralph Winkvist at the "big supply table". (NRS show)



Sporting his KP "proof set" pin, Dan Dorece of Kenosha has time for a chat at NRS Oshkosh show.

At the spring SHOWS



Up from Bartlett Illinois, Jerry Jueger and Gary McMahon were set up at NRS Oshkosh.



Long time collector, author and Oshkosh club member, Larry Spanbauer was at NRS Oshkosh. Larry served a two year term as NOW News editor in the 1970's.



It took about a year, but your NOW News camera finally put the "cast" of Andys Coin's in some order. L to R are: Dale and Kathy Anderson, and right hand man Ron Kurszewski. (NRS Oshkosh)



Hadn't met these nice folks before, Wally and Margie Steinpreis are from Sheboygan. (NRS-Oshkosh).

One of several nice non competitive displays set up by Madison collector Gordon Gill, was this yap stone money. Here Ray Phillips of Madison checks the surface of this EF yap stone. (Madison show)



The layout at Madisons Sheraton Hotel has a natural registration area at the top of the stairs. Persons attending the show are welcomed with club information, hand-outs, and freebees. It's a nice way to start a show before the hum and bustle of the busy bourse.



Dealers delight; good advertising brings people, and if they buy or not depends on the economy, bourse offering, and interest in what is displayed. If the crowd is there, the home club has done their job! (Madison show)



Sheboygan NOW/1986 was on this trio's mind, Sheboygan NOW bourse chairman Vern Witt, (L), had strong support from SCC Secretary, Ken Herber and club President Jerry Olshanski. (Madison show)



Racine registration table was "manned" by (L to R), Pat Dargin, Nancy Wilson and George Conrad.



Neil Shafer has a new title on his authors list, depression script of the U.S. Lots of nice Wisconsin material listed! (Racine show)



Racine "good guy" Bill Spencer had the corner table by the entrance, seniority, no doubt. Racine handout table was staffed by, (L to R), Milan Alusic and Greg Gaitens. (Photo at right)





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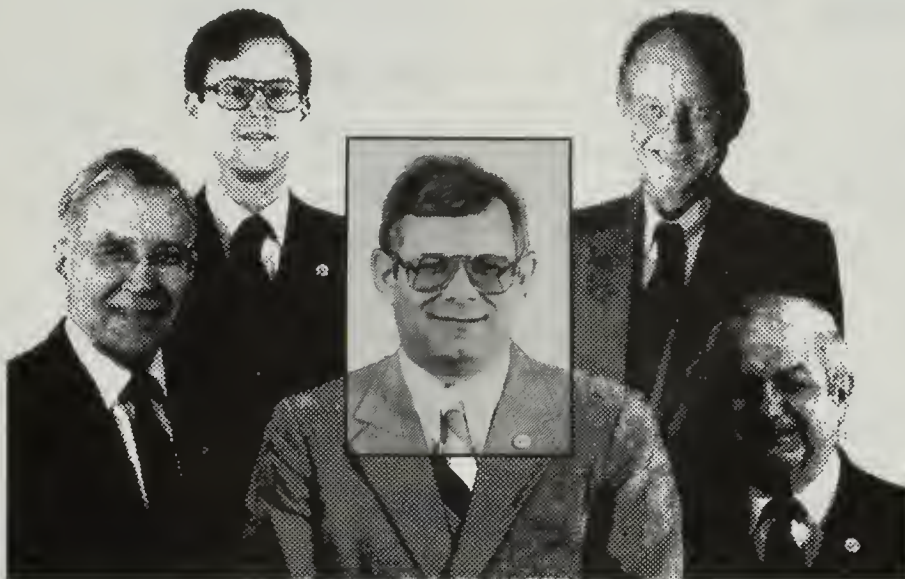


Racine officers and officials at the Sheraton spring show were: (L to R), Pat Dargin, John Barke, Vice Pres. Bill Thielen, Chuck "too tall" Marchese, Greg Gaitens and President Fred Dickfoss.



Eau Claire Coin Club officers at the Holiday Inn show are; (L to R), Secretary, Jerry Tilling, President, Keith Edison, and Vice-President Keith Kwaliek.

Working For The Hobby



Cliff Mishler

Cliff Mishler — collector, show participant, hobby lobbyist. And publisher of Numismatic News. With his divergent activities Cliff successfully blends the goals of Numismatic News with support for his favored avocation.

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MILWAUKEE (SSCC)

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WAUSAU (Wisconsin Valley C.C.)

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Schofield, WI 54476

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West Bend, WI 53095

NEENAH-MENASHA

Richard Anderson
436 Nicolet Blvd.
Menasha, WI 54952

BELOIT (Greater Beloit Area C.C.)

Gary Melby
411 Broad St.
Beloit, WI 53511

Divers find chests filled with silver

The big news from Key West Florida is that divers hauling up a fortune from a sunken Spanish galleon found four chests filled with silver coins July 26th.

The chests are part of an estimated \$400 million in treasure entombed for centuries aboard the three-master Nuestra Senora de Atocha, which sank in a 1622 hurricane 41 miles off the coast of Key West.

On July 20th divers found the ship's "mother lode", a wall of silver bars, plus assorted other valuables and artifacts. Since then, divers have been hauling up riches each day.

In all, 1,200 silver bars weighing 70 to 100 pounds apiece were found in the ship.

The silver coins, which would date no later than 1622, will open the door to many collectors who need silver type coins from this interesting period of coin-ing history. Treasure hunters believe the Atocha carried a total of 80 chests, so it is possible a glut of this early coinage may soon exist.

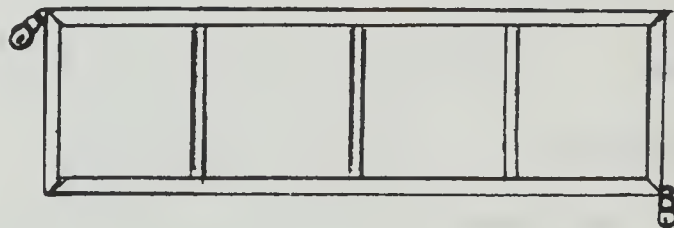
THOSE INTERESTING OLD WISCONSIN COIN CASES

By Gene Johnson - WNWA

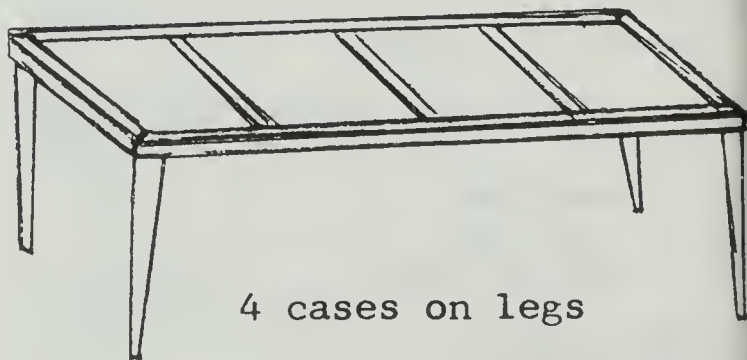
Next time you wander thru the bourse or exhibit area at a local coin show, take note of the coin cases the dealers and exhibitors are using. The bourse will be almost universal in the use of the standard "ANA Case", with a scattering of the two and one half inch deep aluminum case distributed some years ago by Ralph Winquist of Rockford Illinois. In the exhibit area you may run into some beautiful custom carpenter work, but for the most part the cases will be the same as the bourse. Some years ago this was not true, in fact, less than 40 years ago the ANA case didn't exist! Conversations with state veterans Gordon Gill and A.P. "Del" Bertschy tell of the good old days when coin club members hauled the old store display cabinets, (which weighed several hundred pounds), to the bank or store display window to set up an exhibit. These were often six to eight feet long and up to 40 inches in height, with a single shelf of glass on which the coins and paper money were layed out.

In the September 1940 issue of Numismatic Scrapbook came relief to the weary backs of Wisconsin coll-

ectors. There, in Volume 6, issue #9, was an article by Paul Olson of the Northwest Coin Club entitled, "Exhibiting Your Collection". The article, complete with line drawings, laid out a secure plan for coin and paper money displays. The plan used four glass topped boxes, 19x25 inches in size, each one and three quarter inches



Locking & security plan



4 cases on legs

deep, all mounted within an outer frame. The outer frame overlapped the edges of the four cases within, and when padlocked prevented the cases from being opened. The outer frame was then set on four legs and the public was ready to view the exhibits.

Madison Coin Club members were fascinated with the Olson idea, altho the club had insufficient funds to undertake the building of the unit. Knowing the sheer structure of hauling the huge Olson cases, Madison Coin Club members Gordon Gill and Vincent Hack undertook the creation of the Olson case system. Hack, who was serving as Madison Coin Club secretary in 1940, was an accomplished carpenter, (also by profession a career soldier), was to do the creation, while Gill provided the necessary materials.

The cases were beautifully made, with total weight less than complete of only twelve pounds. The Olson pattern was followed closely, and the unit was a bit wobbly on its four legs, was a hundred percent improvement over the store cases used previously.

As the hobby grew, the need for more cases became apparent, and local carpenter/collectors turned out their wooden cases, among these were the cases created by Ed Gengler of Milwaukee. The Gengler cases were 26 x 18 inches and two and one quarter inches deep. Gengler case hardware included a carrying handle and hasps to accommodate two small padlocks. This then was a case for a single exhibitor rather than a club exhibit. The "A" case which was a "crucible" project of M. Vernon

Sheldon, was to make most other cases obsolete within a few years of its inception. The ANA cases were metal, (secure), heavy, (could stand punishment) and when stored in its own cardboard box or "shippers" that held up to six cases were transportable with minimal breakage. One of the first projects of N.O.W. about when funds became available in the 1960's was to purchase 24 ANA cases and four shippers to lend to member local clubs. ANA cases were also expensive, this fact along with the 22 pound

Continued on page 16



Cases in the authors collection; Ed Gengler case (larger, light colored wood); And one of the four MCC Vincent Hack cases that are believed to be the first legitimate coin display cases ever used in Wisconsin numismatics.

Cases-(continued)

weight per case brought about the creation of aluminum cases by several manufacturers. These first aluminum cases were rickety, and easily sprung open or damaged. Thru evolution, the aluminum cases became more sturdy and secure, and the 5" deep case became popular for the display of "Odd and Curious" and other bulky numismatic items.

The ANA case is no longer manufactured, but huge numbers exist, and they will never wear out. The key locks are replaceable, and sheet plastic has replaced glass in many. These cases have been passed from generation to new generation, and will continue to do so. The aluminum cases can still be purchased, but the ANA case is prized. What of the beautiful wood cases of Vincent Hack and Ed Gengler? They have become numismatic treasures in themselves! Gordon Gill preserved the Hack cases, and the work of Ed Gengler is prized by many veteran collectors around the state who still use them to display their treasures. If ever a numismatic museum is created in the state of Wisconsin, we have pioneer coin cases to go with the early Whitman memorabilia, Krause Publication treasures, and other historic Wisconsin memorabilia.

WAUSAU REPORTS

Notice to the hobby: The Wisconsin Valley Coin Club is alive and well and thriving in Wausau! It is true we have been out of touch for a while and we're sorry to say we have made some mistakes in the past year, but we are now on firm footing and planning the future of our club. The 1985 officers are; Gerald Zocher, President, Paul Peters, Vice President, Ed Rahn, Treasurer, Thad Streeter, Secretary.

Here's a short update on what has been going on and what is upcoming for the WVCC.

April 24th 1985, a small coin show was held at the Labor Temple in Wausau. Area dealers set up from 9am to 5 pm. Reports were of a small but buying crowd.

July 21st, we had our annual picnic. This year it was at Marathon Park in Wausau. Games and a cookout were enjoyed by members and guests.

October 27, our 21st an-

ual free coin show will be held at the Youth Building in Marathon Park, Wausau, from 9am to 5pm. Collector and dealer information available from Thad Streeter, 002 Tanya St. Schofield, WI 54476.

November 2, the 30th annual banquet will be held at Maries Supper Club in Wausau.

Again, we're sorry we have not kept our friends in DW informed of our club news on a more regular basis. We will try to make up for this in future issues of DW News. Hope to see many DW members at our fall show. Until then, good collecting!

Thad Streeter

RACINE CLUB NOTES

The Racine Numismatic Society Show for 1986 will be held at the Sheraton Racine Hotel and Conference Center, 7111 Washington Avenue (Highway 20 East off of 94) on March 1 and 2. Bourse chairman is Jerry Binsfeld, P.O. Box 191, Pleasant Prairie, WI 53158. Table fee \$85.00 for an 8 foot table. Available tables - 40.

The May meeting of the Racine Numismatic Society featured a slide presentation from the Token and Medal Society. The exhibit theme was tokens. The president of the Racine club is Fred Eckfoss. Honorary life member Ken Bressett, ANA staff

person, attended the meeting and made a few comments on Congressman Annunzio. Bressett said that Congressman Annunzio is a friend of collectors and deserves their full support. Bressett was in Racine visiting his son Phil and daughter-in-law Carol. Ken at one time worked for Whitman Pub. Company and still has many friends in Racine. Son Phil is a coin dealer who owns and operates Viking Coin in Racine.

Jerry Binsfeld

BELOIT SHOW

The third annual coin show sponsored by the Greater Beloit Coin Club will be held October 6th, 1985, at the Holiday Inn, South Beloit. Show hours are 9am to 4pm, admission is free.

Bourse and exhibit information may be obtained from Stephen Nehls, 1143 Vine Street, Beloit 53511.

KENOSHA CLUB NOTES

The Kenosha Coin Club's show for 1986 will be held at the Kenosha Holiday Inn on Sunday, March 9. Bourse information can be obtained from Treasurer Lloyd Sommers, 4109 86th St., Kenosha, WI 53142. Tables are \$30.00 each. (15 tables available).

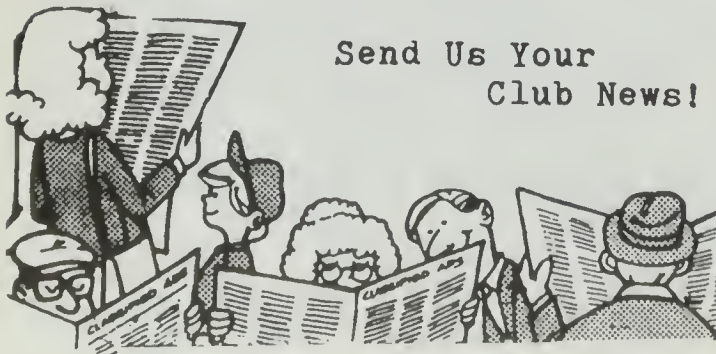
The Kenosha Coin Club recently voted in new offi-

Mail Bag-(continued)

cers for 1985. They are: Pres., Jerry Binsfeld, Vice-Pres., Fritz Schneider, Sec. Sam Perri, Treasurer, Lloyd Sommers and Sargent at Arms, Ed Hoff.

The club theme for 1985 is to dispense numismatic knowledge and Pres. Binsfeld has scheduled the following ANA educational slides for the year: #51 - Counterfeit Detection-Key Cents/Nickels: #52 - Counterfeit Detection-Dimes Through Dollars: VHS Video tape on Grading: #70 Basics of Grading-Official ANA Standards: #71 - Grading Cents-Flying Eagle, Indian and Lincolns: #72 - Grading Nickel Five Cents: #73 - Grading Dimes: #74 - Grading Quarters and set #75 - Grading Quarters and Halfs.

Along with a slide presentation each meeting, club members are encouraged to bring and share with others new acquisitions, to bring items for identification and grading opinions, to bring coins and notes from their collections too share with others and finally bring items to sell and trade.



Send Us Your
Club News!



Didn't have space to run this photo from Appleton-NOW 1985 in the last issue. Dave Harper was a life saver for the photo coverage of the state convention, his film was used extensively when the Wisconsin Rapids developer scratched the negatives in nearly a whole roll of precious NOW show photos. This shot shows Dave at work in the popular Krause Publications "proof set" pin booth at Appleton-NOW.



The Eau Claire show was slow in the morning which gave Minnesota dealer Paul Runze a chance to chat with Eau Claire activist Keith Kwallek. (R)



Setting up at the Eau Claire Holiday Inn were, (L to R), John Tester and Gary Friske.

show schedule

1985-1985-1985-1985-1985

September 22 FOND DU LAC

American Legion Hall
P.O. Box 952
Fond du Lac 54935

September 27-29 MILWAUKEE

MECCA
Milwaukee Numismatic Society
3939 N. Murray
Milwaukee 53211

October 6 BELOIT

Holiday Inn
Greater Beloit Coin Club
1143 Vine St.
Beloit 53511

October 6 APPLETON

Paper Valley Inn
Fox Valley Coin Club
229 E. College Ave.
Appleton 54911

October 13 OCONOMOWOC

Community Center
Cooney Numismatists Ltd.
P.O. Box 624
Oconomowoc 53066

October 20 GREEN BAY

Midway Motor Lodge
Nicolet Coin Club
Downtown P.O. Box 1122
Green Bay 54305

October 27 JANESVILLE

Craig Center - Fairgrounds
Janesville Coin Club
1321 Mineral Point
Janesville 53545

October 27 WAUSAU

Youth Building - Fairgrounds
Wis. Valley Coin Club
5002 Tanya St.
Schofield 54476



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1986 SHOW SCHEDULEFebruary 14-16 MILWAUKEEMECCA
South Shore Coin ClubFebruary 16 OSHKOSHHoliday Inn
Numismatic Research SocietyMarch 1-2 RACINESheraton Inn
Racine Numismatic SocietyMarch 9 KENOSHAHoliday Inn
Kenosha Coin ClubMarch 16 MADISONSheraton Hotel
Madison Coin ClubApril 2-6 KANSAS CITY

Central States Num. Society

November 7-9 MILWAUKEEMECCA
Milwaukee Numismatic Society**PLAN AHEAD!****LOCAL SHOW CO-ORDINATOR****RANDY MILLER**

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HOUSE PASSES LEGISLATIONTO BAR "RED" MONEY

Legislation that would prohibit the Treasury Department from making major changes in United States currency without approval of the Congress was passed unanimously by the House of Representatives July 15th.

The legislation, called the Currency Design Act, was sponsored by Chairman Frank Annunzio (D-Ill.) of the House Consumer Affairs and Coinage Subcommittee. Annunzio introduced the legislation after a government task force announced plans to change the design of the currency so as to make it more difficult to counterfeit by using the new generation of office color copiers.

One of the changes originally considered by Treasury was to print the traditional "greenbacks" in different colors. "Although the Treasury Department says it has abandoned any plans to change the color of the money," said Annunzio, "my bill would make certain that the agency follows through on its promise."

The legislation would require the Treasury Department to wait 90 days after it announces a design change before implementing the new

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TOKEN COLLECTORSPRIMER OF HURLEY, WIS.

By Bruce K. Cox - WNWA

Hurley, Iron County, Wisconsin is a small town located in the northeastern part of the state, that over the years has achieved a certain amount of notoriety for its taverns and night life. Hurley was first settled in 1884 and the Germania iron mine southwest of town was the first mine in the area to ship out iron ore. Within a few years, several other settlements sprung up along the Gogebic Iron Range as other mines opened, and thousands of people flocked into the booming Range.



Pre 1920 brass token used at the Liberty Bell Saloon.

Almost from the start Hurley became known for its saloons and theatres, which offered a wide variety of entertainments. The Liberty Bell, Phoenix, and Congress Hall Saloons, White Bear Restaurant & Saloon, and Alcazar Theatre were a few of the colorful early establishments.

John Ankers opened the first saloon in Hurley in December of 1884, and when Adam Devine, a Hurley pioneer, settled there in 1885 there were reportedly six saloons. Just one year later there were said to have been thirty-six saloons in operation, some which were also "houses of ill fame". Marshall Sullivan and his deputies raided the "Dago" joints near the river Saturday night, and six women were arrested, according to the Interstate News Record of 19 July, 1890. In 1904 the Ironwood News Record carried a report on prostitution and gambling in Hurley in which it was stated, "there have been in operation in Hurley at least six gambling houses and thirty houses of prostitution...operated openly and without concealment..."

Even after prohibition began, the saloons on Silver Street kept operating. Soft drink parlor permits cost \$300 per year in 1920; in December "the aldermanic body passed (an) ordinance to regulate the hours of those institutions which sell non-intoxicating beverages under the Mulberger act, more commonly known hereabouts as saloons".

Mayor Lennon declared saloon music to be a nuisance, "commenting on the operation of electric pianos and other instruments in saloons". Hurley must have been a



Erspamer's Saloon in Hurley is shown in this pre 1900 view. Located at 414 Silver Street, it partially burned in 1901, and was rebuilt. The rebuilt saloon building is still standing and in use today.



A typical Hurley saloon of the early 1900 era. (Photo, Bruce Cox collection).

Hurley-(continued)

token collector's paradise with all those saloons and music machines!

"Smouldering resentment toward the recent prohibition enforcement broke into flames in a pitched battle on Oct. 9 when prohibition operatives from prohibition headquarters in Chicago encountered bootleggers who lost contraband liquor estimated to be worth \$8,000 or \$9,000".

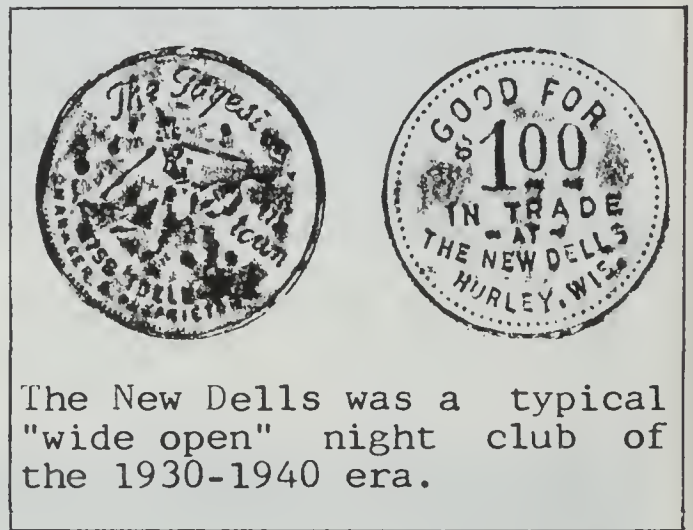
John M. Chiapuzio, a saloonkeeper from Hurley, was killed in the ambush, and the Iron County court tried unsuccessfully to have the killers extradited from Michigan to stand trial for murder. Michigan refused to turn over the prohibition men.

"Home brewing has become a prominent industry, according to residents of (Hurley). Kentuckians driven from the hills of their own state are said to have migrated to this district and set up their stills in operation, and prohibition agents say there has been no perceptible reduction in the liquor consumption since prohibition became effective".

A big raid by forty-eight feds on the morning of 28 December 1920 made headlines for Hurley, "The raid followed a wild night at Hurley during which liquor was so-

ld at bargain rates, ranging from 35¢ for moonshine, to 75¢ for well known brands of whiskey. Among those arrested were lumberjacks too paralyzed from liquor to realize what was happening".

In April of 1923 a federal judge in Madison declared the search warrants used in the raid illegal. Nobody was prosecuted.



The New Dells was a typical "wide open" night club of the 1930-1940 era.

Today Hurley is still a popular place on weekends, but it isn't a "wild" town. Many of its taverns use metal, wood or plastic tokens, and any collector interested in such items could have an enjoyable time looking for them.

New WNW writer Bruce Cox has written many articles and stories about the Gogebic Range of Wisconsin and Michigan, many published in Michigan Tams.

signs. If Congress did not
t to overturn the proposed
anges in that time period,
e new currency could go
to production automatica-
y.

The Treasury feels that
th sophisticated color
piers coming out on the
cket in the next few years,
counterfeiting could well
ve from nuderground print-
g press operations to the
fice copying machine. Whi-
supporting any efforts to
scourage counterfeiting,
nnunzio made it clear that



ngressman Frank Annunzio
s used old fashioned com-
n sense in his dealings
th our Governments minting
d money printing policies.
s fair-handedness in hobby
lated matters is making
n a numismatic folk hero.

he wants to make certain
that there is indeed a prob-
lem, and that taxpayers'
money is not wasted on a
needless solution.

"More than \$31 million
of taxpayers' money has al-
ready been spent to develop
an anti-counterfeit bill,"
Annunzio noted, "but so far
prototypes of the new cur-
rency have failed most of
the government's tests."

One of the proposed cur-
rency changes would feature
an optical variable device
printed on the money which
would either change color or
shift from one scene to an-
other when the currency was
moved from side to side.

"We are dealing with Un-
ited States currency here,
and not a box of candy with
a kid's toy inside. We want
to make certain that the Tr-
easury does not produce an-
other Susan B. Anthony dol-
lar or a \$2 bill fiasco,"
said Annunzio.

"We also want to make
certain that a problem ex-
ists before any more taxpay-
ers' money is wasted. Eighty
million dollars in counter-
feit money was seized, and
only seven million dollars
made its way into the bank-
ing system. If the govern-
ment has already spent \$31
million and cannot find a
solution, how much money
must be spent before we will
spend more on the solution
than the problem," concluded
Annunzio.

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The objective of Numismatists of Wisconsin shall be to encourage and promote interest in numismatics; to cultivate friendly relations between Wisconsin coin collectors and the state's coin clubs, as well as collectors of other states; and to encourage and assist new collectors and coin clubs. All resources of the organization shall be used to further these objectives.

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